

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Elizabeth Tonnesen was born on May 9, 1905, near Inwood, Iowa, to Ole and Martha Tonnesen, one of twelve children. Tonnesen was later changed to Tennyson by Elizabeth's teacher when she started school; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Betty was united in marriage to Oscar Larsen in 1941, and they ranched east of Philip, South Dakota, for 25 years; and,

Whereas, Betty graduated from Quinn High School in 1925, earning her teaching certificate from Spearfish Normal School, which allowed her to teach in rural schools in western South Dakota for many years. She continued her education through summer school, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1971, and continued teaching in rural schools until her retirement; and,

Whereas, Betty continues to live in her own home and keeps abreast of political and world events while she enjoys visiting with her many friends and relatives; and,

Whereas, Betty will celebrate her 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her friends and relatives gather to honor her and celebrate her life and the camaraderie of the day; it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 9, 2005, as

ELIZABETH LARSEN DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all her many friends and relatives in wishing her a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fifth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Ch. Nelson
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State